

JEFFREY A. TAYLOR
United States Attorney for the
District of Columbia

Judiciary Center 555 Fourth Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20530



JOSEPH PERSICHINI, JR.
Acting Assistant Director in Charge

Washington Field Office 601 Fourth Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20535



CATHY L. LANIER Chief of Police

MPD Headquarters 300 Indiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001

PRESS RELEASE

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For Information Contact: Public Affairs

Channing Phillips (202) 514-6933 (USAO) Gwendolyn Crump (202) 727-2662 (MPD) Debbie Weierman (202) 278-3519 (FBI)

FBI and MPD Make Key Arrests in Northeast DC Drug Ring

WASHINGTON — Metropolitan Police Chief Cathy L. Lanier, Federal Bureau of Investigation Assistant Director in Charge (ADIC) of the Washington Field Office, Joseph Persichini, and U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor announced today the arrests and indictment of five individuals in connection with an ongoing investigation of a drug ring operating in Langston Terrace in Northeast, DC.

A 38-count federal indictment was unsealed today, charging eight individuals with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute more than one kilogram of heroin. The arrests were a result of an operation by members of the FBI/MPD Safe Streets Task Force. Authorities believe the ring was led by Rex Pelote, Sr.

Today, Charles Edward McRae, along with Linda M. Jones, were arrested, in the District of Columbia. Each are members of the Rex Pelote, Sr., crew. Previous arrests consisted of Loretta Belt on April 7, 2008 and Edward Tyrone Farley on April 15, 2008.

During the arrests and execution of the search warrants, authorities seized more than 200 grams of heroin, more than 300 grams of crack cocaine, and one firearm.

"If you're a resident in that community you would be concerned about a daily operation of any quantity," Chief Lanier said. She said the investigation into Langston Terrace began after

a spate of violence in 2006. Chief Lanier called the take down in Langston Terrace significant.

"Today's announcement of the indictments, arrests and searches relating to members of the Langston Terrace Crew illustrates the success of the Team DC concept wherein the FBI and MPD share resources, personnel and intelligence to address violent crime issues in the District of Columbia," ADIC Persichini said. "The FBI will continue to participate in this joint law enforcement effort to make the streets of the District of Columbia safer for its citizens."

Mayor Fenty also praised the efforts of Team DC and said, "I'm pleased that many of the arrests occurred in the Fifth District, an area that has experienced a critical amount of violence."

U.S. Attorney Taylor stated, "Today is a good day for Langston Terrace. We want to bring some justice and peace back to our communities."

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